



Indy Mopar Club News

www.indymoparclub.com

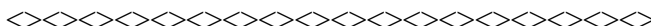
August 2018

Jan Peel Editor 317.357.5760 e-mail: Jpeel83719@aol.com

Lynn Miller, President 317.363.9224	Bob Thomas, Vice President 317.508.5805
Steve Wisdom, Treasurer 317.457.5205	Dave Opel, Secretary 317.850.1834
Randy Smith, Communications Director 317.696.1894	

Meetings are the last Thursday of every month except November & December.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, August 30, 2018, will be held at **MCL Cafeteria, 3630 South East Street** Indianapolis (US 31- N of Southern Plaza between Sumner & National). Meet for dinner at 6pm, meeting at 7pm. A Map Quest link is available on the IMC website – www.indymoparclub.com.



Presidents Message

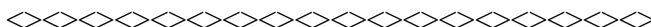
August 2018

I cannot believe how fast this year has gone by! Hope everyone is having a great summer and enjoying their Mopars. Team Chuck has been working hard on the Westgate show and still need prize donations. Please contact Chuck Butler if you have any questions about what is needed. For those that have already purchased items for prizes, please bring them to the next club meeting.

This next part is sad for me ☹ This month's president's note for the newsletter is a bit later than usual - I have been doing a lot of praying as I am having to realign things personally for me. After prayerful consideration, I am tendering my resignation as President of the Indy Mopar Club. As you all know I do have a love and passion for the Mopar and the Indy Mopar Club however, I am not able to devote as much time to the club as I was hoping I could. Thank you to my Indy Mopar Club family all for your kind support, mentoring and words of encouragement during this year.

Mopar Love Always –

Lynn and Miss Molly



A MOPAR Couple In Japan

By: Ann and Randy Smith



It is a really long flight to Japan. ... Correction: It's a really, really, long flight to Japan. Here we are (left) just before departing IND for the 4-hour flight to LAX, followed by a 15-hour flight to HND (Tokyo's Haneda Airport), after which we boarded a bus to take a train to our dorms in Tokyo's Olympic Center. Why would anyone endure such travel? For us, it was simple. The opportunity presented itself for us to live for a month among a vibrant and spectacular culture that has persisted for centuries longer than Europeans even knew the Americas existed. And, today Japan is one of the world's strongest capitalist economies, providing an important example for 21st Century approaches to global issues.

We found much was different in Japan. It's quieter and cleaner in Japanese large cities, even though there are many more people. Tokyo metro is about 37 million people, whereas New York metro is about 20 million people. Yet, there's never a speck of litter and no one uses their horn in Tokyo. Things were also much smaller. As an island country, Japanese are highly interested in efficiency, green technology and recycling. Space is at a premium. When we saw a Cadillac Escalade attempting to navigate the primary streets of Sendai (a city about the size of Indy), it looked like a hippopotamus attempting to get to a seat a Victory Field. Indeed, most city busses are the size of an Escalade in Japan and we saw RVs that were smaller. To put size into perspective, we stayed one night in a pretty fancy hotel. Our "double room" included a double bed (not a

queen) and lying flat on the bed, arms extended overhead, Randy would be touching two walls at the widest point of the room. And if Randy lay that way in the opposite direction, we'd need to open the windows to extend his arms. Religion is different. There are Shinto Shrines and Buddhist Temples around every corner



(Left: Us at Meiji Jingu – a major Shinto Shrine in Tokyo located next to our dorm; Right: Ann in our traditional Japanese room at [Shunkoin Temple](#) in Kyoto.) Interestingly, though Japanese take their religion and philosophy and incorporate it into the core of their daily life rather than make an external thing that they touch-base with on a regular and visible basis.



Food is also different, though there are entire books on that culture. Suffice it to say that we tasted some of the best food of our lives in Japan, and some that we could go without tasting (or food consistencies that we'd prefer to avoid) for the remainder of our days.

There is an interesting car culture in Japan. Unlike what we've been lead to believe by Hollywood, drift cars and boy-racer machines were few and far between. Most vehicles were obviously designed with function in mind, and most were spotless. Everyone parks backwards in their driveway and you see very few cars with rust or damage on the road. We had opportunity to sit in a NISMO modified Nissan GTR in the showroom, and saw a [1958 Subaru 360](#) roped off as a treasure at a multi-generational sake and beer brewery. We observed a classic Aston Martin V8 Vantage on a wrecker and supercars like the Lamborghini Aventador and Ferrari 488 GTB roaming the streets. With all of the talk of FCA US running into difficulties marketing MOPARs outside of North America, we wondered if we would see any during our month in Japan. It turns out, we did! As you



might expect, most of what we saw were Jeeps. Most often we saw TJs and XJs. We caught an XJ stopped at the busiest intersection in the world, [Shibuya Crossing](#) (above right). Note the size of the XJ Unlimitted next to the



typical delivery van in Tokyo. We also came across a Jeep Compass along the Nara Deer Park near the Daibatsu located in [Tōdai-ji](#) (left). And a Jeep Renegade within the heart of Kyoto (right). Yet, we saw more than just the Jeep brand. We caught glimpse of a Durango Citadel (below left) near the [Tsukigi Fish Market](#) in Tokyo. Note how large the Durango looks in comparison to the commercial truck. This truck is about the



largest that you see on the road in Japan. And, the MOPAR that really boggled Randy's mind was the [Chrysler Ypsilon](#) (a rebrand of a Lancia by the same name) we saw in Kyoto (pictured right).



The LX platform also lurked in Japan. It popped up when we least expected it, disobeying all Japanese conventional cultural standards. Out of nowhere this Challenger (left) emerged, rumbling and unassuming, from a pre-rush-hour Shibuya Crossing. It emitted a little growl with its turn. Unfortunately, as with any good fish (or car) story, the one that got away (or in this case evaded the camera) was the most impressive. We were on our way to the Tokyo Park Hyatt to grab a quick beverage from the bar atop the hotel. (The bar was made famous in the movie [Lost in Translation](#), starring Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansson.) As we walked through



the quiet and relatively empty after-business-hours streets of Shinjuku Ku, the silence was torn apart by a 300 SRT with an exhaust and many other modifications. It roared down Nishishinjuku as the rasp of the exhaust echoed down the street.

Everyone on the street stopped and turned to see what was wrong. Randy just smiled.

Japan is an amazing place to visit. While we stood out like sore thumbs (especially Randy), in this country where foreigners are few and far between, we were welcomed wherever we went, whether it be

the Cup Noodle Museum in Yokohama (below left), a Sumo Match in Tokyo (below center), or the magnificent Kinkaku-ji Temple in Kyoto (below right). This was even the case in Hiroshima, where we met with a survivor of the atomic bomb. The bomb survivor was more concerned that we bring home her story to ensure that no one should have to go through what she did, than she was concerned that we were citizens of the country that dropped the bomb (We will share her story, if you're interested). We also found most of the large cities relatively easy to navigate, especially Tokyo. Anyone with a bit of travel savvy can likely make it around Tokyo. And, the rest of the country is a short train-ride away.



By far the fastest vehicle we saw on the ground was the Shinkansen (Bullet Train). Traversing the country at 180+ mph really made for exceptional travel. Imagine going from Indy to Chicago in just over an hour! No airport, no security, just board the train at the exact time it is supposed to be there ([early or late departure is not tolerated](#)). The best part is that the seats are easily twice as big as any commercial airliner, downright roomy. And, the ride was as smooth as silk. This is how we connected to cities all across the country. It made for quick and convenient travel. Japan has a highly developed and efficient railroad system. All we had to do was walk to the nearest train station, and we could access pretty much the entire country. Oh, and did we mention that the only luggage we carried for the entire month, was one backpack the size of a carry-on and another slightly smaller than what your kids (or grandkids) carry to school? ... Perhaps that's a discussion for another Member Profile. Sayōnara!



INDY MOPAR CLUB MONTHLY MEETING, JULY 26, 2018

WELCOME AND SIGN-IN:

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by our President Lynn Miller.

The meeting was attended by Chester Branham, Chuck & Linda Butler, Stephen Claycomb, Dick & Dorinda Crawmer, Tom Kelly, Ken Malott, Lynn Miller, Dave Opel, Rick Ordo, Jan Peel, Jeff Platzer, Randy Smith, Evan Springer, Terry Thompson, Steve Wisdom, and guests Rick Zimmerman, Larry and Sue Mayes.

Secretary's Report – Dave Opel

The minutes were reviewed by Secretary Dave Opel from the June meeting. No corrections were presented. The minutes were accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Wisdom

June 28, 2018 Balance \$3,530.76; July income was \$1,592.77; July Expenses were \$1,120.98; July 26, 2018 Balance \$4,002.55. Flower Fund \$300.00. 58 Paid members.

Communication Director – Randy Smith

Continuing to refine IMC website. Continuing to pursue domain name (Indymopar.com) due to confusion with IMC.

- A. Motion to pursue domain name, \$50 allotted for expense. Motion made by Randy Smith and seconded by Dick Crawmer, motion carried.

Member News, Birthdays, Anniversaries – Dave Opel

Dave Opel gave the report in Bob Thomas Absence. Congratulations to all.

Event Calendar – Dave Opel in Bob Thomas absence

- A. August 23 and September 27 – Knightstown Cruise-In (On the square) 5-8pm

Old Business – Lynn Miller / Rick Ordo / Evan Springer

- A. Fletcher CDJ/IMC Show – July 7
 - a. Excellent weather but attendance down due to numerous car show/cruise-in on same date.
 - b. 85 cars in attendance
- B. Indy Cylinder Heat tour – Lynn Miller is still working on the date.
- C. JDRF Walk – Evan Springer
 - a. Date is October 6
- D. Other unfinished business - none

New Business – Lynn Miller

- A. Westgate Cruise-In – Jeff Platzer
 - a. Jeff mentioned we have received a check in the amount of \$1,000 from Westgate Chrysler.
 - b. Flyers for the upcoming cruise-in were available from members to distribute.
- B. JDRF – Your Way – Lynn Miller
 - a. Lynn is working with JDRF to have a representative to meet with IMC members at a future meeting.
- C. Proposed Club Bylaws update – Lynn Miller
 - a. A discussion was held concerning Anti-harassment, Anti-discrimination policies. Lynn received a copy of these policies from JDRF and mention was made to include in revised IMC bylaws. Further discussions to be held with members.
- D. Club Newsletter Member Profile
 - a. August – Randy Smith
 - b. September – Tom Kelly
 - c. October – Need a volunteer
- E. Other new business
 - a. Ideas for club activities
 - b. Show and tell

A motion was made by Chuck Butler to adjourn and was seconded by Dick Crawmer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Opel

2018 INDY MOPAR CLUB – EVENT LIST – TBV – to be verified TBD – to be determined

May 5	Sat	11a-5p	Cinco de Mopar-American Cancer Society Car Show	Lafayette, IN	Tom Kelly
13	Sun	9-Noon	IMS Speedway Cars & Coffee	Speedway –Indianapolis	Tom Kelly
15-20	Tue-Sun		Mecum Collector Car Auction	IN State Fairgrounds	Tom Kelly
18-20	Fri-Sun		Chrysler Power Classic Nat'l Trail Raceway	Columbus OH	Dave Watt
31	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Lynn Miller
2-9-16-23-30	Wed	5pm	LOR Wild Wednesday's	Lucas Oil Racing	Evan Springer
Jun 9	Sat	9-Noon	IMS Speedway Cars & Coffee	Speedway –Indianapolis	Tom Kelly
20-24	Wed-Sun		Airflow Club of America National Meet	Chico CA	Tom Kelly
28	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Lynn Miller
29-30	Fri-Sat		FAST-Pure Stock Drags	Martin MI	Dave Watt-Mike Leyes
6-13-20	Wed	5pm	LOR Wild Wednesday's	Lucas Oil Racing	Evan Springer
Jul 7	Sat	TBD	Fletcher CDJR/IMC Cruise-In	Franklin, IN	Lynn Miller
13-15	Fri-Sun		Carlisle Chrysler Nats	Carlisle PA	Dave Watt
14	Sat	9-Noon	IMS Speedway Cars & Coffee	Speedway –Indianapolis	Tom Kelly
21-22	Sat-Sun		Belvidere Mopar Happening	Belvidere IL	Tom Kelly
24-28	Tue-Sat		Plymouth Owners Club National Meet	Northville/Novi MI	Tom Kelly/Jan Peel
26	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Lynn Miller
11-18-25	Wed	5pm	LOR Wild Wednesday's	Lucas Oil Racing	Evan Springer
Aug 10-12	Fri-Sun		MOPAR NATIONALS-Nat'l Trails Raceway	Columbus (Hebron) OH	Tom Kelly
11	Sat	9-Noon	IMS Speedway Cars & Coffee	Speedway –Indianapolis	Tom Kelly
14-18	Tue-Sat		Back to the Bricks Car Show	Flint MI	Tom Kelly
17-19	Fri-Sun		Woodward Dream Cruise	Oakland County MI	Tom Kelly
22-26	Wed-Sun		National DeSoto Club Convention	Branson MO	Tom Kelly
30	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Lynn Miller
31	Fri	TBD	DSR Open House-Car Show	Brownsburg IN	Evan Springer
1-5	Wed	5pm	LOR Wild Wednesday's	Lucas Oil Racing	Evan Springer
Sep 4-8	Tue-Sat		Walter P Chrysler Club National Meet	Chattanooga TN	Tom Kelly
8	Sat	TBD	West Gate Chrysler / IMC Cruise-in	Plainfield IN	Lynn Miller
14-15	Fri-Sat		Pure Stock Muscle Car Drag Race	Stanton MI	Dave Watt/Mike Leyes
15	Sat	9-Noon	IMS Speedway Cars & Coffee	Speedway –Indianapolis	Tom Kelly
20-23	Thu-Sun		NMCA Race-Show	Lucas Raceway (IRP-Clairmont)	Dave Watt
27	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Lynn Miller
Oct 6	Sat	9a-1pm	JDRF RUN/WALK – Victory Field	Indianapolis IN	Steve Wisdom
13	Sat	9-Noon	IMS Speedway Cars & Coffee	Speedway –Indianapolis	Tom Kelly
25	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Lynn Miller
31	Wed	5pm	Nominations for 2018 Officers	Lucas Oil Racing	Evan Springer
Nov 17-18	Sat-Sun		Muscle Car and Corvette Nationals show	Rosemont IL	Tom Kelly
29	Thur	7-8p	Indy Mopar Club Monthly Mtg	MCL Cafeteria	Lynn Miller
			Election night for 2019 Officers		
Dec 15	Sat		Indy Mopar Club Christmas Party	Steve Wisdom's Clubhouse 1202 Leisure Lane, Greenwood 46142	Lynn Miller

Cruise-In's

Danville	Fri	4pm - ?	1 st Friday of May through October	Court House
Avon	Sat	5pm - ?	Saturday's May through October	Lowes Lot
Mooresville	Fri	4pm - ?	Friday nights May through October	Kroger Lot
Fortville	Wed	5pm - ?	Wednesday nights May through October	Main Street Downtown
Greenwood	Sat	3pm - ?	Saturday's May through October	The SUDS